

A Level

Specification: Edexcel

ART & DESIGN: Fine Art

What will I study?

During your A Level course you will cover a whole range of different media, techniques and processes, from printmaking to abstraction.

In the first two terms of year 12 you will be introduced to a range of media and techniques in 3D, painting, drawing, photography and print, to stretch and challenge skills and understanding across the key genres in Art & Design. In the final terms of year 12 you will set your own personal brief and theme, to create a personal in-depth body of coursework that continues into year 13. This will include an extended written assignment of 1000-3000 words supporting your theme and profiling your ideas alongside artists' and designers' work.

How will I be assessed?

60% of the assessment is based on coursework and 40% is on the final examination. The final exam starts in January of Year 13 and is an externally set theme, with a 15-hour final practical test in May.

Coursework consists of preparatory studies in the form of sketchbooks or design sheets, plus supporting artworks and refined, developed outcomes.

The course is taught across four assessment objectives (equal in weighting) that measure success against research, development, experimentation and investigation, refinement and making. All units are internally marked and externally moderated.

How will I learn?

- Personal research, experimentation and development of ideas.
- Coverage of a wide range of techniques and processes, including 3D and contemporary art forms.
- Art/Design history and theoretical concepts.
- Site visits, exhibitions and museum visits.

What skills will I need?

- Independent learning and self organisation.
- Passion for the arts scene, visiting exhibitions.
- Problem solving, reviewing and modifying skills.
- Good observational skills and critical analysis skills.
- An understanding of formal elements of Art & Design - composition, colour, line, form etc from GCSE study.

Careers & Progression

Every good company realises that creativity and good design are important factors in generating new business. So, your creativity isn't just a way of satisfying your artistic soul, it can open the door to creative career opportunities as well.

After A Level, many students go on to higher education in art and design via a foundation course or straight to a BA (Hons) art/design degree. JMF6-Abingdon has a 100% success rate of students gaining places on their chosen art and design courses. Students then progress to a range of related careers such as advertising, graphic and digital design, animation, set and special effects design, illustration or even automotive design. Some become professional artisans and craftspeople, painters, sculptors, textile designers, product and furniture designers, jewellery designers, florists, fashion designers, art teachers, photographers... These are just a few of the careers that are open to students with a qualification and experience in Art and Design.